

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ACDA-05 DHA-02 ORM-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 EB-07 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /087 W

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R 130720Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6668

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 5256

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, GW

SUBJECT: GOP CONTINUES SILENCE ON PACT WITH FRG, HOPES FOR TRADE  
IMPROVEMENT

REF: BONN 12722

1. THE FRG EMBASSY IS PUZZLED BY THE ABSENCE OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION IN POLAND OF THE AGREEMENT ACHIEVED DURING THE GIEREK-SCHMIDT BILATERAL AT HELSINKI AND  
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INITIALED AT BONN ON AUGUST 7 (REFTEL). AN FRG EM-

BASSY OFFICIAL WAS TOLD BY A PROMINENT POLISH JOURNALIST THAT AN ARTICLE THE JOURNALIST HAD PREPARED ON THE AGREEMENT WAS KILLED AT THE LAST MINUTE. THE OFFICIAL FEELS THAT THE GOP MAY SIMPLY PREFER TO AWAIT FORMAL SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT IN OCTOBER OR FULL RATIFICATION LATER BEFORE PUBLICIZING IT. WHILE HE FEELS IT POSSIBLE THAT THE POLES MAY ACUTALLY BE AFRAID OF PREJUDICING FRG RATIFICATION THROUGH PREMATURE COMMENT OR ARE CONCERNED ABOUT STIMULATING UNDUE INTEREST IN EMIGRATION, HE SEEMED UNABLE TO SHAKE A PROFOUND CONCERN THAT THE REAL REASON STEMS FROM SOME KIND OF INTERNAL POLITBIURO DISPUTE OVER TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT.

2. A POLISH MFA OFFICIAL, ASKED ON AUGUST 8 ABOUT THE DELAY IN PUBLICITY ABOUT THE AGREEMENT, HAD OBSERVED TO US THAT CAUTION IS THE WATCHWORD SINCE THE GOP REALIZES FULL WELL THAT FRG RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT MAY NOT COME EARLY OR QUICKLY. POINTING TO THE PROTESTS ALREADY BEING RAISED BY FRG OPPOSITION ELEMENTS, HE INDICATED THAT THE GOP DOES NOT WISH TO HAVE THE PRESS TRUMPET AN AGREEMENT THAT COULD FAIL TO BE RATIFIED.

3. IN ANY CASE, THE AGREEMENT BROUGHT AN AUDIBLE SIGN OF RELIEF FROM BOTH BONN AND WARSAW, ACCORDING TO THE FRG EMBASSY OFFICIAL. NOTING THAT ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD NOW RESUME THEIR UPWARD COURSE, THE OFFICIAL REMARKED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A DECLINE IN BILATERAL TRADE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1975. HE CITED A POLITICALLY MOTIVATED POLISH PREFERENCE FOR TRADE WITH FRANCE. THOUGH NOT AN ECONOMIST HIMSELF, HE ALSO SOUGHT TO ALLAY CONCERNS THAT ANY UPSWING IN FRG-POLISH TRADE WOULD COME AT THE EXPENSE OF THE US, ARGUING THAT THE TRADE INVOLVES DIFFERENT ITEMS.

4. POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER JERZY OLSZEWSKI WILL VISIT THE FRG AT THE END OF AUGUST OR IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. ALTHOUGH OLSZEWSKI WILL BE GOING OSTENSIBLY TO PARTICIPATE IN A POLISH COMMERCIAL EXHIBITION IN HAMBURG, HE  
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HAS ASKED TO SEE TOP-LEVEL FRG TRADE OFFICIALS. ADDITIONALLY, A GROUP OF SOME ONE HUNDRED POLISH COMMERCIAL OFFICIALS IS EXPECTED TO VISIT THE FRG IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS. ALTHOUGH OUR SOURCE COULD NOT GIVE SPECIFICS, HE SAID THAT THE VISIT WAS IN THE NATURE OF A TRADE MISSION AND WOULD INCLUDE MANY OF THE HIGHEST-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES OF POLISH INDUSTRY.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NOT TO BE RULED OUT, THE POSSIBILITY OF AN INTERNAL DISPUTE OR EVEN SECOND THOUGHTS CONCERNING THE FRG-POLISH AGREEMENT STRIKES US AS UNLIKELY. THE POLISH SIDE WAS REPRESENTED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. WE BELIEVE IT MOST LIKLY THAT THE GOP SIMPLY HAS NOT YET DECIED HOW BEST TO PRESENT THE AGREEMENT PUBLICLY, BOTH IN TERMS OF INFORMING ITS OWN POPULACE AND WITH A VIEW TOWARD THE INEVITABLE RATIFICATION DEBATE IN THE FRG.

6. OUR FRG EMBASSY SOURCES REFERENCE TO POLITICALLY MOTIVATED POLISH PREFERENCE FOR TRADE WITH FRANCE HAS NOT YET BEEN REFLECTED IN TRADE STATISTICS. IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1975, POLISH IMPORTS FROM SWEDEN INCREASED BY 265 MILLION FOREIGN-EXCHANGE ZLOTYS OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1974; DURING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1975, IMPORTS FROM FRANCE ROSE BY 185-MILLION FOREIGN-EXCHANGE ZLOTYS, AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 1974. THUS, WHILE THE SHIFT OF TRADE AWAY FROM WESTERN GERMANY HAS BEEN POLITICALLY INSPIRED, NO SINGLE COUNTRY CAN BE IDENTIFIED AS THE PRIMARY BENEFICIARY.  
DAVIES

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